



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff **Scott Mittelstadt** Chief Deputy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 07-29-20

Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt

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At 9:43 AM on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 the Dodge County Sheriff's Office received a report of a domestic violence incident on US 151 near County Highway C in the Town of Trenton. A female passenger exited the car and the male driver left the area traveling south on US 151. A Dodge County Sheriff's Office deputy located the vehicle on US 151 near County Highway G and attempted a traffic stop. The vehicle fled south on County Highway G striking and causing damage to a motorcycle near County Highway S. The vehicle continued south fleeing at high speeds, traveling in the wrong lane of traffic. When the vehicle reached Lowell, it failed to stop at the stop sign of Beaver Dam Street and Mill Street and drove into the lawn south of the intersection crashing into several small trees. The driver exited his car and fled on foot but was arrested a short distance from his car by multiple deputies and the sheriff who all converged on the area.

The subject arrested was identified as Equon Hopkins age 40 of Madison. He was treated at Columbus Hospital for minor injuries resulting from the vehicle crash with the trees. He was booked into the Dodge County Jail and charges are being requested for Eluding an Officer, Hit and Run Attended Vehicle, Endangering Safety by Reckless Driving and Domestic Battery. Other citations for traffic violations are also likely. Of course, all persons are innocent until proven guilty in court.

Additionally, it was discovered that Hopkins had just been released from Dodge Correctional Institution in Waupun at about 9:00 AM after serving time in the Wisconsin Department of Corrections Prison System.

Sheriff Dale Schmidt would like to stress that the alleged actions of this individual were not only dangerous to the public but domestic violence toward another person is never acceptable and will always end in an arrest. Furthermore, attempting to flee from a law enforcement officer is a very serious offense and we will do everything possible to bring those individuals to justice. Had this individual stayed at the scene, he likely would have faced misdemeanor charges of battery, but the actions of fleeing led to much more serious felony actions. Fortunately, no one else was injured due to the reckless, selfish and dangerous act of fleeing.

Questions may be directed to Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt.

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